

1978 (l.c.); in the latter case, all but three of the 17 known British species. — A. A. ALLEN.

APION PUBESCENS KIRBY (COL.: APIONIDAE) IN CUMBRIA. — On the 31st August, 1983 while collecting coleoptera in an old disused limestone quarry at Dunnerholme near Askam in Furness, (SD21.79), Cumbria I took one specimen of *Apion pubescens* by grubbing at the base of Wild Thyme growing on a low grassy bank on the seaward side of the quarry. Although I searched the immediate area for some time this was the only individual seen.

This would appear to be a new record for the weevil from Cumbria and it probably represents a new record for vice county 69, North Lancs. as well. According to Fowler (1891, *Col. Brit. Isl.* 5: 166) *A. pubescens* is of local occurrence in Britain and is known from various localities in England and has been recorded from Kinrosshire and the Forth district of Scotland.

The hostplants of *A. pubescens* as recorded in the literature are various species of *Trifolium*, including *T. campestre* and *T. pratense*, and Dieckmann (1977, *Beitr. Ent.* 27:77) gives a few brief details on the biology, stating that the larvae develop in the stems and rootstocks of the various foodplants where a gall is usually produced.

I wish to thank Mr. Anthony Allen for kindly identifying *A. pubescens* for me and for much useful information on the Apion group in general. — R. W. J. READ, 43 Holly Terrace, Hensingham, Whitehaven, Cumbria, CA28 8RF.

LEPIDOPTERA IN NORTH-EASTERN ENGLAND, 1983-84. — Having moved from the South of England to Guisborough, Yorks (V.C. 62) in 1983 and studied the lepidoptera of the area, I was pleasantly surprised by the number of species. Many were found which are not recorded on the distribution maps in Heath *et al.*, *The Moths and Butterflies of Great Britain and Ireland*, Vols. 1, 9 & 10. I suspect this is because observers have not submitted their records rather than any other factor although lepidopterists are rather thin on the ground here. The area contains a wide range of habitats in a relatively small region, from sand-dunes, salt-marsh and sea-cliffs to heather moorland via farmland, suburbia, heavy industry and Forestry Commission plantations, all of which contribute to the richness of the natural history.

The following is a selection from the 350 species recorded so far, with light-trapping being the major technique used:— *Lasio-campa quercus* L. ssp. *callunae* Palmer, *Pseudoterpna pruinata* Hufn., *Entephria caesiata* D. & S., *Mesoleuca albicillata* L., *Coenote-phria salicata* Hbn., *Eupithecia nanata* Hbn., *Chloroclystis debilitata* Hbn., *Venusia cambrica* Curtis, *Gnophos obscuratus* D. & S., *Acherontia atropos* L., *Parasemia plantaginis* L., *Meganola confusalis* H.-S., *Agrotis vestigialis* Hufn., *Rhyacia simulans* Hufn., *Xestia agathina* Dup., *Sideridis albicolon* Hbn., *Lacanobia suasa* D. & S.,